Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>05 January 2001</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-22</u> is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-22</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is in response to the communication filed on January 5, 2001. Claims

1 – 22 were received for consideration. No preliminary amendments for the claims were

filed. Claims 1 – 22 are currently under consideration.

Claim Objections

2.   Claims 1 – 22 are objected to because of the following informalities: a colon

should follow every preamble. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3.   Claims 1 – 5, 8-9, and 13 – 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Musk et al. (U.S. Patent 5,944,769).

Regarding claim 1, Musk discloses:

A method comprising:

at a web server, providing web-based map viewing, publishing, and provisioning

services (Figure 2, column 2 lines 13 – 21, column 2 line 47 – column 3 line 11); and

centrally storing map information for use in providing the services (Figure 3 step

F, column 2 lines 13 – 21).

Claim 2 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

receiving from an application server or a mapping server requests associated

with the viewing, provisioning, or publishing of maps (Figure 3, column 2 line 50 –

column 3 line 11); and

providing a bridging function that includes reformatting the requests into non-

proprietary standardized formats (column 3 lines 21 – 27).

Claim 3 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

storing the map information in a database (Figure 3 step F, column 2 lines 13 –

21);

abstracting the map information to generate metadata that represents the

information (column 3 lines 3 – 33); and

enabling a mapping application to access the metadata (column 3 lines 3 – 33).

Claim 4 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

receiving requests that relate to viewing, publishing, or provisioning web-based

maps (Figure 3 step A and D, column 2 lines 50 – 57); and

serving the requests at least in part by accessing remote application service

provider functions (column 2 line 58 – column 3 line 20).

Claim 5 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 4. Furthermore, Musk discloses:

The method of claim 4 in which the functions include locating addresses or

finding shortest paths (column 3 lines 4 – 11, column 3 lines 54 – 65).

Claim 8 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

enabling a user at a web-client to define and build maps and spatial graphics by

interaction with the server (column 4 lines 7 – 13).

Claim 9 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

enabling users to categorize how web-based maps and map layers will appear

based on style definitions (column 3 lines 4 – 48).

Claim 13 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

enabling a user at a client to preview a map over-the-web prior to provisioning

the map (Figure 4 step K, column 3 lines 4 – 11).

Claim 14 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

enabling a user at a client to publish a map by a single mouse click to initiate

publishing at the server (Figure 2, column 2 lines 50 – 66).

Claim 15 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

enabling a user at a client to define an initial map extent using a web-based

interface (column 4 lines 7 – 13).

Claim 16 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

enabling a user at a client to define visual attributes of a layer (column 3 lines 42

– 48, column 4 lines 8 – 13).

Claim 17 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 16. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

   The method of claim 16 also including:

   providing the user a palette of selections for a layer element property (column 3

lines 42 – 48, column 4 lines 8 – 13).

Claim 18 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

   The method of claim 1 also including:

   enabling a user at a client to define theming of map and spatial information using

a web-based interface (column 4 lines 7 – 13).

Claim 19 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

   The method of claim 1 also including:

   enabling a user at a client to incorporate image data into maps using a web-

based interface (Figure 2, column 2 lines 50 – 66, column 3 lines 4 – 27).

Claim 20 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

   The method of claim 1 also including:

enabling a user to print electronic maps using a web-based interface (Figure 2,

column 2 lines 50 – 66).

Claim 21 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

enabling a user at a client to define and include map accessory information

(column 3 lines 12 – 21, column 4 lines 7 – 13).

Claim 22 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Musk

discloses:

The method of claim 1 also including:

enabling a user at a client to control the layout of a map and accessory

information using an interface layout panel that enables dragging and positioning of

components (column 4 lines 7 – 13).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 6-7, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Musk et al. (U.S. Patent 5,944,769) in view of Sheynblat et al. (U.S. Patent

6,677,894).

Claim 6 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Musk does not

explicitly disclose enabling a user to upload map data from a client through the Internet

to the server for use in executing the publishing and provisioning services. Sheynblat

discloses a client providing information about location, navigation, and GPS-related

measurements to a web server (column 20 lines 57 – 66). This web server also

distributes location information to clients analogous to the invention of Musk which

distributes map information to clients via a web interface. The map information of Musk

is up-to-date, hence new information regarding maps has to be uploaded to the sever,

which is well-known in the art. Sheynblat discloses that the uploading of new map data

will "complete or refine a position calculation" (column 2 lines 3 – 10). The refinement

or updating of map data will allow the users to receive accurate maps and directions

that provide the shortest paths. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time the Applicant's invention was made to use the

uploading feature of Sheynblat in combination with the invention of Musk to allow users

to receive accurate maps, directions, and providing the shortest paths to destinations

via a web interface.

Claim 7 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 6. Musk does not

explicitly disclose enabling a user to upload map data from a client through the Internet

to the server which is then automatically integrated with the stored map information for

access by remote viewers. Sheynblat discloses a client providing information about

location, navigation, and GPS-related measurements to a web server (column 20 lines

57 – 66). This web server also distributes location information to clients analogous to

the invention of Musk which distributes map information to clients via a web interface.

The map information of Musk is up-to-date, hence new information regarding maps has

to be uploaded to the sever, which is well-known in the art. Sheynblat discloses that the

uploading of new map data will "complete or refine a position calculation" (column 2

lines 3 – 10). The refinement or updating of map data will allow the users to receive

accurate maps and directions that provide the shortest paths. Therefore it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the Applicant's invention was

made to use the uploading feature of Sheynblat in combination with the invention of

Musk to allow users to receive accurate maps, directions, and providing the shortest

paths to destinations via a web interface.

Claim 12 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 6. Musk does not

explicitly disclose guiding the user interactively to select the data files to upload, and

initiate the upload. . Sheynblat discloses a client providing information about location,

navigation, and GPS-related measurements to a web server (column 20 lines 57 – 66).

This web server also distributes location information to clients analogous to the

invention of Musk which distributes map information to clients via a web interface. The

map information of Musk is up-to-date, hence new information regarding maps has to

be uploaded to the sever, which is well-known in the art. Sheynblat discloses that the

uploading of new map data will "complete or refine a position calculation" (column 2

lines 3 – 10). The refinement or updating of map data will allow the users to receive

accurate maps and directions that provide the shortest paths. Therefore it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the Applicant's invention was

made to use the uploading feature of Sheynblat in combination with the invention of

Musk to allow users to receive accurate maps, directions, and providing the shortest

paths to destinations via a web interface.

5.   Claims 10-11are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Musk et al. (U.S. Patent 5,944,769) in view of Howard et al. (U.S. Patent 6,519,647).

        Claim 10 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Musk does not

explicitly disclose enforcing levels of security to control access by user to the viewing,

publishing, and provisioning services. Howard delineates a method protecting the

content and access to a web site by various methods, and according to different levels

of security (column 2 lines 5 – 32). In one embodiment, Howard discusses the use of

Access Control Lists to have a list of user accounts and user groups that can access a

web site and determine a level of access that they are granted, including read and write

privileges (column 7 lines 40 – 56). Howard states that it is "highly desirable to protect

the content and access to a web site so that unauthorized individuals cannot access

and manipulate web site resources" (column 1 lines 12 – 16). Musk's invention pertains

to a web server and a web site, and according to Howard, it is always desirable to

provide access control to a web site so that unauthorized individuals cannot access the

web site resources. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time to combine the security functions of Howard with the invention of Musk to

provide access control to the web site so that unauthorized individuals cannot access

and manipulate the web site resources.

Claim 11 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Musk does not

explicitly disclose managing access by users to the viewing, publishing, and

provisioning services by grouping the users according to their rights to use the

respective services. Howard delineates a method protecting the content and access to

a web site by various methods, and according to different levels of security (column 2

lines 5 – 32). In one embodiment, Howard discusses the use of Access Control Lists to

have a list of user accounts and user groups that can access a web site and determine

a level of access that they are granted, including read and write privileges (column 7

lines 40 – 56). Howard states that it is "highly desirable to protect the content and

access to a web site so that unauthorized individuals cannot access and manipulate

web site resources" (column 1 lines 12 – 16). Musk's invention pertains to a web server

and a web site, and according to Howard, it is always desirable to provide access

control to a web site so that unauthorized individuals cannot access the web site

resources. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to combine the security functions of Howard with the invention of Musk to provide access control to the web site so that unauthorized individuals cannot access and manipulate the web site resources.
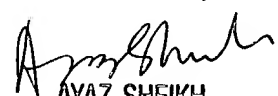
Conclusion

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kaveh Abrishamkar whose telephone number is 703-305-8892. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 703-305-9648. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

KA
06/24/2004

AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100